

- The county incurs the risks of operating and maintaining an aging WTE facility.
- The county must either hire an operator or develop proficiency in operating a WTE facility.
- County residents must be willing to approve a bond referendum to finance the purchase.

The county will continue to use out-of-county landfills for E/RRF overflow and MSW disposal during maintenance of the E/RRF or as a contingency or emergency backup. The county currently has contracts with the following landfills: Prince William County; King George County (operated by Waste Management); Shoosmith Brothers in Chester, VA; Atlantic Waste Landfill in Waverly, VA; the King and Queen County Landfill operated by Allied Waste; and the National Waste Landfill in Luray, VA.



Fairfax County will also continue the use of in-county and out-of-county landfills for the disposal of its CDD. Although VDEQ data suggest Virginia CDD disposal quantities will exhaust disposal capacity within seven years, Fairfax County assumes that the private sector will secure additional CDD disposal capacity

during the SWMP planning period. The county will also investigate whether to support the capacity expansion of existing in-county CDD landfills over the SWMP planning period.

Fairfax County can guarantee CDD disposal capacity over the SWMP planning period by contracting for capacity at an out-of-county CDD landfill. The county currently disposes CDD at three out-of-county landfills (Potomac Landfill and WMI Transfer Station both in Prince William County and Corral Farm Landfill in Fauquier County) on a per-ton basis. These facilities and others may be willing to guarantee CDD landfill space for Fairfax County.

Discontinue Use of E/RRF after 2011 and Use Out-of-County Landfills

If contract negotiations with CFI are unsuccessful, Fairfax County may discontinue using the E/RRF when the contract expires in 2011. Fairfax County would then use out-of-county landfills as the sole disposal method for MSW. Out-of-county landfills (with transportation costs) remain a cost-effective disposal option. Table 6-17 presents the



primary out-of-county landfills available for Fairfax County MSW.

Four factors may reduce the attractiveness of this alternative compared to using the E/RRF: availability, environmental concerns, traffic concerns, and risk. Although capacity likely exists in current landfills, quarterly permit limits may limit the availability of out-of-county landfills to accept all MSW requiring disposal from the county. Costs are expected to rise considerably in the future, since new landfills are difficult to permit in the Commonwealth. No new landfill capacity has been added recently. In addition, this alternative will result in higher environmental concerns due to increased transportation requirements, that results in additional truck traffic and air emissions in the region. Finally, this alternative increases the risk to the county's solid waste management system by relying on a single MSW disposal system that is out of the county's control.

Foster a Regional Approach for CDD Disposal

CDD management issues, especially the shrinking disposal capacity in the area, are regional concerns. Through regional coordination of Northern Virginia and/or Washington area local governments, the county can help develop sound regional responses to CDD issues.

Improve Public Outreach and Education

Fairfax County can assist in reducing CDD disposal issues through improved public education and outreach. As CDD disposal capacity diminishes, the county can focus public outreach and education to assist private companies in finding alternatives to disposal or additional CDD disposal capacity.

Collection and Transfer SWMP Actions

Although not levels in the solid waste hierarchy, collection and transfer of solid waste are key to implementation of the county's solid waste management strategies over the next 20 years. Table 11-5 presents actions selected by Fairfax County for the future collection and transfer of solid waste in the county.

Construction of solid waste transfer facilities in Virginia are permitted by rule — facility operators are only required to notify VDEQ of the intent to operate and provide documentation and certification that the facility meets VDEQ requirements. Nonetheless, all facilities governed by permit-by-rule in Fairfax County must be in accordance with this SWMP.

Table 11-5. Fairfax County Collection and Transfer SWMP Actions

Collection SWMP Actions
County oversees residential MSW collection
Revise county code to reflect service level changes and requirements (as needed)
Continue current vacuum leaf collection system
Improve public outreach and education, specifically education for CDD collection options
Consider program to promote best management practices for CDD haulers
Promote use of special fuels, filters, and special vehicles for collection
Implement a collection and disposal strategy for emergencies
Expand special wastes collection
Transfer SWMP Actions
Continue using current transfer system
Reconfigure or construct waste handling areas at the I-66 Transfer Station, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Unloading areas for citizens and commercial cash customers (for increased safety and efficiency) – Areas to handle increased CDD and/or yard waste – Recycling center for CDD, if needed
Add transfer capability to the I-95 Landfill Complex if increases in transfer quantities or waste exchange agreements require it
Improve public outreach and education to promote SWMP transfer actions

COLLECTION

County Oversees Residential Collection Services

Under this collection SWMP action, Fairfax County will oversee residential MSW (including yard waste) collection services to all county households possibly through a series of contracts with private collection companies. The county would become the customer service interface between residents and the collection companies. This SWMP action would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the residential collection system and correct several issues with the patchwork system that currently exists in the county.



Fairfax County DSWCR will likely continue to collect MSW and yard waste in a portion of the county (sanitary districts).

The yard waste collection system will continue to include residential curbside collection of leaves and grass (seasonal), and brush (year-round) as well as yard waste recycling centers at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill Complex.

Under this new arrangement, the county can provide more oversight to solid waste collection services that will realize certain efficiencies and benefits for customers:

- reduce truck traffic in neighborhoods to improve safety and congestion during rush and school bus hours
- standardize the cost and levels of service provided to customers
- decrease air emissions from multiple trucks in the neighborhoods
- develop uniform policies throughout the county, so that public outreach and education can be improved
- improve recycling by encouraging citizens to recycle versus dispose of materials
- expand specialty services for communities (cleanups, household hazardous waste collection, etc) because a pool of funds for the overall collection services would be managed by the county for the benefit of all residents
- allow the county to become more involved with brush and debris from weather events or other emergencies in the county's public service role that supports the quality of life of county residents, and
- keep costs as low as possible for customers.

Fairfax County may consider implementing this SWMP action by awarding collection contracts to private haulers through a competitive bidding process. This process would standardize costs and allow the County to become the customer service interface between county residents and the private companies.

County-managed collection may not be able to be implemented immediately: the county will need to address the five-year notification required by state law.

If the county is unable to implement this SWMP action, Fairfax County will continue to collect MSW as it does currently. The current collections system includes residential curbside collection provided by private haulers and county collectors, county-provided disposal centers and recycling DOCs, commercial collection provided by private haulers, and the County Agency Route Program.